

## PUBLIC RECREATION A CITY PROBLEM

Board of Education Dis-  
cusses Question of Its  
Responsibility.

L. C. BARCLAY  
TELLS OF P. S. 63

Has Social Centre Association,  
with Many Active Commit-  
tees and Clubs.

By HENRIETTA RODMAN.

There was a lively meeting at the Washington Irving High School yesterday.

Mr. Thomas Churchill, Miss Martha Draper, Raymond Fosdick and other members of the Board of Education were there. Louis Pink presided.

The problem under discussion was the responsibility of the Board of Education to provide opportunities for wholesome recreation for the people of New York.

A large order, but not an extravagant one, according to Mr. L. C. Barclay, secretary of the Social Centre Association.

Mr. Barclay said:

"The problem of public recreation in this city is so big that it is a financial impossibility for any administration to provide funds to carry on the work. Partial solution is an absolute necessity if recreation is to reach a great number of people and to be of any great service to the city."

"The use of public school buildings as community centres offers a solution of the problem.

"The community centre is not primarily a building, or a set of activities, or a staff of teachers, but it is a centre for organizing the life of the neighborhood and of the community.

"The Board of Education gave permission to people to use school buildings and then restricted their rights and privileges, under the community centre plan the Board of Education will not only give permission to use the building, but will encourage and organize people to use the building with the greatest educational value to themselves."

"Neighborhood co-operation is interest is fundamental to democratic community centre work."

"Neighborhood co-operation to be effective must be well organized. Promoters should be furnished, giving all their time to the study of the needs of the neighborhood, and under the guidance of these promoters the neighborhood should work out its own problems."

"P. S. 63 has a social centre association with a number of effective committees."

"There is the street cleaning committee, which cooperates with the Street Cleaning Department; the moving picture committee, which carries on the moving picture shows in co-operation with the day school teachers for the children, illustrating, as far as there are pictures available, work in geography, history, nature study, and literature; the dance committee, which carries on dances for the community; the magazine committee, which publishes a neighborhood periodical; the street play committee, which conducts and pays for the supervision of street play in East Side schools. Then there are the regular administrative committees, such as finance, rules and regulations, executive clubs, lectures and forums."

Eugene Gibney, principal of the recreation centre at P. S. 188, said that in his opinion self-government is important.

"Unless there is authority backed by the Board of Education," he said, "the thing cannot be controlled."

Wealthy citizens in our basketball and other games. Boys learn that they must obey the rules implicitly or be eliminated from the game. Thus they learn submission to authority."

W. J. McAuliffe agreed that the only way to make good citizens of bad boys was by the use of authority.

The recreation centres differ from the community centres, in that they are supported by the Board of Education, while the latter are employed have the same authority over the groups which they direct as have teachers of classes in the day schools.

The meeting was adjourned until March 31 at 4 p.m. The hearing will be public, and will be held at 500 Park Avenue.

**GIRL OF 11 FLIGHTS  
CAPTURED; IS BRIDE**

Medical Brotherhood Formed  
at Meltzer Dinner for Inter-  
national Benefit.

Welcoming Dr. S. J. Meltzer, of Rockefeller Institute, whom they recently elected honorary member, more than two hundred members of the Columbia University Bio-Chemical Association, dined last night at Reisenweber's. Physiological chemists from various parts of the United States were present, and foreign guests were represented. Besides Dr. Meltzer, the speakers were Dr. W. H. Howell, of Yale, and Dr. F. H. McCrindle, of Harvard.

At Dr. Meltzer's suggestion the association voted to form "a medical brotherhood for the acceleration of international morality." The matter will be taken up at the meeting April 9.

The girl was locked up in the Fourth Branch Detective Bureau as a fugitive from justice, to await extradition. She married John Wilkins, a Long Island chafeur, on January 29, acting on the presumption that she couldn't be taken back to the training school after the nuptials. But the detectives informed her last night that she was mistaken.

In 1907 the girl was committed to the asylum. Since then she has been caught in almost every big city east of the Mississippi.

Three years ago the girl was captured in Trenton, N. J., by Department of Justice officers. They got her into a train bound for Washington, but before it was out of the station Miss Smith had climbed out a window to the roof, and she dropped to the ground. One of the officers fired two shots at her, but she didn't even pause. She was taken into custody.

Miss Smith has a whole assortment of escape schemes in her bag. The last flight, on December 26, was made in an unusually spectacular manner. With three other girls she overcame a keeper, locked him in their cell, and made her way out of the school dressed in a matron's clothes.

"Charlie" was attacked in the middle of the Harvard football field last fall. His optimism kept him from the game and the Yale contest. Next came Joseph, the Everett High School football and baseball star, who followed two months later.

**FOURTH CHURCH ACTIVITY**

Reception of New Members—

Fanny Crosby's Memorial.

At the Fourth Presbyterian Church, West End av. and 91st st., there will be a communion service to welcome new members to their折中。

Rev. Dr. Edward Whitaker Work, will preach. At 8 p.m., a memorial service will be held for Fanny Crosby, the blind hymn writer, who died recently and whose ninety-ninth birthday would have occurred on March 24. Hymns that made her famous will be sung and Dr. Work and the Rev. P. E. Erickson will speak. Dr. Work's Tuesday morning Lenten Bible class will hold its last session of this season next Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the church parlor. Dr. Work's subject will be "The Story of Jesus on the cross."

On Good Friday at 8 p.m., a church service will be held. Dr. Work will preach, concluding his series of sermons on "The Sayings of Jesus on the Cross," and the choir will sing "Manger's 'From Olivet to Calvary.'

**SAVE METHODISM,  
IS PASTOR'S CRY**

People of Suburbs Asked to Aid  
City—Bishop Wilson Tells  
of Perils.

Suburban Methodists must come to the help of their beleaguered brothers in New York or "Methodism will perish," declared the Rev. Dr. C. Reisner, of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, yesterday at the Methodist Episcopal Conference. In his congregation of 1,400, said Dr. Reisner, only two families dwell in houses. The others, apartment dwellers, were moving to the suburbs as fast as they could afford it, he declared.

"Manhattan Island must have help from the suburbs, or Methodism will perish," asserted Dr. Reisner.

Bishop Wilson agreed that New York City presented a garrison missionary field where every mission opportunity, fame and responsibility facing Methodism to-day," said he, "as New York City. The Methodists of New York are here before us. The response must be made by you to save the Church in New York. This city is a fortress, and this fortress is assailed by forces more evil and more tremendous than most of you realize, than most people of the city realize."

At All Angels' Church, at 4 p.m. tomorrow, Stainer's "The Crucifixion" will be sung.

At St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia Uni-

versity, the preacher at 4 p.m. to-morrow will be the Rev. Dr. George Hodges, dean of the Episcopal Theological School.

The usual number of palms passing through the New York market is about 250,000 heads. The greater part of this number is used in and near New York. While Barclay Street handles others, bringing them from Florida, supplies intended for New York and the Middle West are usually sent direct. Each of the 250,000 heads comes from 100 different palms. An even dozen heads form a bunch, and these are sold at 75 cents a bunch.

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